4/9/71

Dear Howard,

I got up early and went over the FBI clippings you sent me. I didn't get up for that reason, but that is how I used the time. The sun is just showing. They are all helpful in the ways you anticipated, but there is one in particular that is of considerably more than average interest. I will explain the reasons when you are here. It is the Bulletin story of 3/26/71, by Burkhart & Levy.

From the story I deduce, perhaps incorrectly, that all quotes are from the cited newsletter of 9/16/70, but the part that in particular interests me may not be. That part, in the middle of the carryover, deals with two categories of informants, PSIs and SIs, and their compensation, etc.

I will try and get a copy from the Washington Post. I'd appreciate it if you tried for me at the Bulletin and from Kenyatta. I'd like the entire thing and anything else dealing with these matters that they will provide. In short, what chiefly interests me at the present is the mechanics, not the details of the improper surveillance.

Lil was delayed at work yesterday. I'd gotten LIFE and read their piece on Hoover while waiting. It was disappointing to find as perceptive a man as Wicker stating the problems so lucidly, but pretending that they are problems for the future only, to learn that intelligent as he is, excellent a reporter as without doubt he is, he is entirely unaware of what the practise has been under his very nose.

However, all these voices found after so long a silence is encouraging. Kleindinest was so excessive, uptight media people have been talking to me about how disgusting he was. That Boggs has articulated support after the counter-attack on him is a very good sign. As you know, I have written him. We'll see if he has any interest.

I had developed a very good source in several areas, not superficially connected, entirely by accident, the accident of someone in the right place at the right time turning on over my work. He was doing very good things, if in an amateurish way, and was undisciplined, paying no attention to advice. He made a single mention of Sprague and the CTIA and turned his major source off like a locked faucet. I've tried to suggest how it can be overcome, how he may recapture the lost confidence (and his source was quite right to lose confidence), but as yet I have received no encouraging indication. Some of our paranoid friends are our worst enemies. And the distance is so great there is no prospect of attempting the span the chasm in person.

Do not be afraid to use the phone, if you can't go to the Bulletin or Kenyatta's office. Both are undoubtedly prime possibilities of tapping today, but it is better to be overheard than to do nothing. If you fear that your age or that you are only a student will not move them, tell them you are doing this for me, and it won't now hurt to refer to the contents of FRAME-UP and the Saturday Review review, even that in PW.

Thanks